Annual Report of Dr.T.A.I.Rees,

Medical Officer of Health,

Port of Plymouth.

1968

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b2999147x

II

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY
LIBRARY

HEALTH
24 MAR '69
F.O. 2

Introduction.

This Report is in the form and sequence prescribed for Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Port Health Authorities by the Ministry of Health, Form Port 20, dated October, 1952.

A detailed report was made in 1965 and where there has been no change in arrangements during 1968 this is indicated under the appropriate section.

HEALTH
24 MAR '69
2

LIBRARY

Introduction.

This Report is in the form and sequence prescribed for Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Port Health Authorities by the Ministry of Health, Form Port 20, dated October, 1958.

A detailed report was made in 1965 and where there has been no change in arrangements during 1968 this is indicated under the appropriate section.

SECTION I - STAFF

No change.

SECTION II

AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE B

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reporting as having had during the voyage, infectious diseases on board.
			By the Medical Officer of Health.	By the Port Health Inspector.	
Foreign Ports	1,137	554,651	7	407	4
Coastwide	1,239	794,673	1	355	nil
TOTAL	2,376	1,349,324	8	762	4

There was an increase of 331 ships and tonnage of 78,755 entering the port compared with 1967.

SECTION X - STAFF

No change.

SECTION XI

AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE B

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reporting as having had during the voyage, infectious diseases on board.
			By the Medical Officer of Health.	By the Port Health Inspector.	
Foreign Ports	1,437	594,694	7	407	4
Coastwise	1,239	784,673	1	355	nil
TOTAL	2,376	1,349,367	8	762	4

There was an increase of 331 ships and tonnage of 78,759 entering the ports compared with 1957.

SECTION III

CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR

TABLE C

Passenger Traffic	Number of Passengers INWARDS	2,811
	Number of Passengers OUTWARDS	2,465

PRINCIPAL IMPORTS

Foreign.

Cargo Traffic

Preserved meat and cheese from Holland.
Fresh fruit and vegetables from Holland, France and Spain.
Timber from Canada, Sweden, Poland, Russia, Finland, East Germany and U.S.A.
Grain from Holland, France and Germany.
Fuel oils from the West Indies, Singapore and Greece.
Fertilisers from Holland, Germany, France, Sweden and Finland.
Wines and spirits from Holland and France.
Tinned and dried milk from Holland.
Fresh fruit from Cyprus.
Confectionary from Holland.
Oyster shell from the Continent.
Liquified Petroleum Gas from France.
Potatoes from Egypt.
Steel from Holland and Belgium.
Motor Spirit from Germany, Aden and Belgium.

Coastal.

Coal from South Wales and North-East Ports.
Petrol, oil and paraffin from Fawley, Hamble Milford Haven, Swansea, Brixham and Falmouth.
Fertilisers from Immingham and Belfast.
Potatoes from Northern Ireland.
Grain from Avonmouth, Isle of White, Blyth and Kings Lynn.
Tar from Preston.
Gypsum from Ireland.
Tomatoes from Jersey.
Cable from Southampton.

SECTION XIX

CONTRACTS OF SHIPPING AND AGENCY DURING WAR AND NEW

EXHIBIT G

Importer	Number of Importer's CONTRACT	Date
Importer	Number of Importer's CONTRACT	Date

Cargo	Destination
Foreign.	

Foreign.	

Foreign.

Foreign.

Foreign.

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS

China Clay.
Granite chippings.
Scrap metals.
Fertilisers.
Broken glass.
Coke and coke breeze.
Limestone.

PRINCIPAL PORTS FROM WHICH SHIPS ARRIVE

Asia and Australasia	Europe	America	Africa
Singapore	Rotterdam Gibraltar Ghent Brest La Pallice Le Havre Antwerp Amsterdam Bordeaux Roscoff Limassol Rouen Gothenburg Hamina Lisbon Gonfreville Roytta Copenhagen	Vancouver Trinidad San Francisco New York Recife	Las Palmas Alexandria Cape Town

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS

China Clay.
Granite chippings.
Scrap metals.
Fertilisers.
Broken glass.
Coke and coke breeze.
Limestone.

PRINCIPAL PORTS FROM WHICH SHIPS ARRIVE

Asia and Australasia	Europe	America	Africa
Singapore	Rotterdam Gibraltar Ghent Brest La Pallice Le Havre Antwerp Amsterdam Bordeaux Roscoff Limassol Gothenburg Hamina Lisbon Bonfreville Egypte. Copenhagen	Vancouver Trinidad San Francisco New York Recife	Las Palmas Alexandria Cape Town

SECTION IV

INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

There is no inland barge traffic at the port.

SECTION V

WATER SUPPLY
No change.

SECTION VI

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS 1966

No change

SECTION VII

SMALLPOX

1. Isolation hospitals available

The first case or cases would be admitted to the Smallpox Hospital, Liskeard, Cornwall (Telephone: Liskeard 2385), staffed from the Scott Isolation Hospital, Beacon Park Road, Plymouth (Telephone 51437).
Consultant Physician: Dr. C. R. Steed.

Should it appear likely that more extensive accommodation would be required, arrangements would be made for the Lee Mill Smallpox Hospital, at present used for geriatric cases, to be re-opened as a Smallpox Hospital.

2. Arrangements for the transport of cases to hospital

The launch Argus of the Plymouth Port Health Authority, based at Millbay Docks, Plymouth (Telephone: Plymouth 68000, Extn. 2229 by day and Plymouth 64101 at night and weekends) is available to transport cases from ship to shore. The launch is equipped with a radio transmitter and receiver linked to the Plymouth Ambulance Headquarters.

Ambulances of the Plymouth City Council's Ambulance Service (Telephone: Plymouth 64101) are available to transport cases to hospital.

3. Smallpox consultants

Dr. W. N. St. John-Brooks
West Cornwall Hospital
Penzance, Cornwall

Office Telephone: Penzance 2382
Home Telephone: Cookwells 356

4. Facilities for the laboratory diagnosis of smallpox

Materials for the collection of specimens from suspected cases are always available at the Port Health Office, Plymouth.

Specimens are forwarded to the Virus Reference Laboratory, Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale Avenue, London, N.W.9.

SECTION VIII

VENEREAL DISEASES

Location and facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease and days and hours of attendance:

No change.

During the year 91 British and 22 Foreign seamen were treated at the Venereal Disease Clinic.

The nationalities were as follows:-

British	...	...	91
Turkish	...	...	1
Dutch	...	...	5
Norwegian	...	...	1
Biafran	...	...	1
Danish	...	...	3
Kenyan	...	...	1
Finnish	...	...	1
Greek	...	...	9
TOTAL	...	...	113

C I T Y O F P L Y M O U T H

PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

Section IX - Cases of Notifiable and other Infectious Diseases on Ships - 1960.

TABLE B.

Category	Disease	No. of cases during the year		No. of ships concerned.
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports.	Chicken Pox	-	1	1
	Infective Hepatitis	-	1	1
	German Measles	-	1	1
	Mumps	1	-	1
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival.	None	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from other ships	None	Nil	Nil	Nil

SECTION X

OBSERVATIONS ON THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS

There were no cases of malaria brought to notice in ships arriving at Plymouth during the year.

SECTION XI

RELATIVE TIMES BEHINDS SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED OF PLAGUE

No plague infected or suspected ships entered the Port during the year.

SECTION XII

RELATIVE TIMES BEHINDS SHIPS IN SHIPS FOR FOREIGN PORTS

1. Ships arriving at the various wharves are boarded by the Port Health Inspector or Rodent Operator. Enquiries are made of the officers and crew as to evidence of rat infestation. Docksides, wharves and warehouses in dock areas are under constant surveillance for evidence of rodent infestation, and Foreman Stevedores are also questioned as to the presence of rats. Where evidence of rat infestation is found, trapping or poisoning is carried out by the Rodent Operator.

2. All rats caught are destroyed and some specimens found are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, South Devon and East Cornwall Hospital, Greenbank, Plymouth.

3. If necessary, derating of ships would be carried out by poisoning using 1080. This treatment would be carried out by private firms under the supervision of the Port Health Authority.

Should it be deemed necessary to fumigate a vessel, Methyl Bromide or Hydrogen Cyanide would be used, depending on availability. Fumigation would be carried out

by private firms under the supervision of the Port Health Authority.

Commercial Contractors carrying out such deratting treatments are:-

1. Contra-pest Services Ltd., 2 Ranelegh Road, London, E.6.
2. Rentokil Laboratories Ltd., Marine & Fumigation Division, 112 Victoria Dock Road, London, E.16.

Small interim treatments are carried out by the Port Health Authority's Rodent Operator using Warfarin.

Inspections confirm that rat proofing principles are incorporated in the construction of modern vessels.

TABLE 2

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports:-

Nil

Rodents destroyed in docks, quays, wharves and warehouses:-

Category	Number
Black rats	Nil
Brown rats	49
Sent for examination	2
Species not known	Nil
Infested with plague	Nil

Number of rats presumed killed, based on amount of poison bait consumed: 114.

Number of mice presumed killed: 107.

CITY OF PLYMOUTH.

PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

Number of Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year ending 31st December, 1958, for ships from foreign ports.

TABLE F.

Number of Deratting Certificates issued.					Number of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued. 6	Total Certificates issued 7
After fumigation with		After trapping. 3	After poisoning. 4	Total. 5		
HCN 1	Other fumigant 2					
-	-	-	-	-	45.	45.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

(APPLICATION TO SHIPPING) ORDER, 1951.

No Rodent Control Certificates were issued to coastal vessels during the year.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Nature and Number of Inspections	Notices served		Result of serving Notices
	Statutory Notices	Other Notices	Notices Complied
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

SECTION XIV

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH) REGULATIONS 1934 & 1948

Investigations by officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Central Public Health Laboratory into the outbreak of food poisoning following the consumption of oysters fished at Saltash and cleansed at the Saltash Borough Council's oyster cleansing installation during September and October 1966 continued without any specific cause for the outbreak being identified. The cleansing plant remains closed (the Ministry of Health's approval having been withdrawn). This in effect closes the fisheries as dredging of oysters for sale for human consumption is conditional on the oysters being cleansed at the Saltash Corporation plant.

The Port of Plymouth Health Authority co-operated by taking samples of sewage effluents periodically and notifying the results to the Food Hygiene Laboratory, Central Public Health Laboratory, Colindale Avenue, London, which is collating bacteriological and field experiment results in connection with this outbreak.

SECTION XV

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

1. ~~No change.~~ Dr. Enid Atkins resigned 31st December 1968

2. No change.

3. No change.

4. During the year the number of incoming aliens was 1,193 and the number of outgoing aliens was 645.

5. No change.

REPORTS AND CERTIFICATES FOR ALIENS MEDICALLY EXAMINED

	Nature of Report or Certificate	Total number of Reports and Certificates issued	Aliens not permitted to land
A	Unsound mind or mentally defective	1	1
B (1)	Undesirable for medical reasons	None	None
B (2)	(a) Inability to support	None	None
	(b) Likely to require medical treatment	None	None
	(c) Inability to support and likely to require medical treatment	None	None
C	Conditionally landed for further medical examination	None	None
	TOTALS	1	1

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

COMMONWEALTH IMMIGRANTS ACT 1962

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF COMMONWEALTH IMMIGRANTS

(1) List of Medical Inspectors of Commonwealth Immigrants:-

Dr. Enid Atkins resigned 31st December, 1968.

(2) Total number of Commonwealth citizens subject to control under the Act:- 3.

(3) Total number of Commonwealth citizens medically examined:- NONE

REPORTS AND CERTIFICATES FOR COMMONWEALTH CITIZENS MEDICALLY EXAMINED

No certificates in respect of Commonwealth citizens medically examined were issued.

(4) Total number of Commonwealth citizens embarked:- 20.

SECTION XVI

MISCELLANEOUS

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease:-

NO CHANGE

FOOD INSPECTION

During the year 166 vessels were dealt with under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations 1937 and 1948 and the Public Health (Imported Foods) Regulations 1968.

The total amount of foodstuffs voluntarily surrendered and condemned as unsound, unwholesome or unfit for human consumption, consisted of:-

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs	Ozs
Fresh fruit	20	7	3	12	0
Tinned fruit and fruit juices		12	2	23	9
Fresh Vegetables	14	2	2	2	0
Tinned Vegetables, vegetable preserves and soup		4	1	7	3
Confectionery and flour		3	3	8	0
Sauces and Cooking Oil			1	5	3
Jams and Spreads			1	22	8
Wheat	5	2	0	0	0
Bournvita				7	0
Cerdals		1	2	12	0
Coffee				19	0
Tinned fish			1	15	8
Canned meat		4	3	24	4
Lard		3	2	14	0
TOTAL:-	41	4	3	4	3

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

and

DARK SMOKE (PERMITTED PERIODS) (VESSELS) REGULATIONS 1958

Two notices were served on the masters of vessels under the above Act and in each case the nuisance was abated and no further action was necessary.

The following specimens were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Greenbank, Plymouth:-

Date	Specimen	Source	Examined for	Result
19.3.68.	Brown Rat	Saphir & Co., Millbay	P. Pestis	No Pathogens Isolated
20.3.68.	Water 1	Standpipe in Tunnel D.I.	B. Coli	Probable No. of B. Coli per 100ml NIL
20.3.68.	Water 2	Warden's Kitchen D.I.	B. Coli	" NIL
20.3.68	Water 3	Barrack's Kitchen D.I.	B. Coli	" NIL
19.6.68.	" 1	Saphir & Co.	B. Coli	" NIL
19.6.68.	" 2	Port Health Office	B. Coli	" NIL
9.7.68.	" 1	Warden's Kitchen D.I.	"	" NIL
9.7.68.	" 2	Standpipe in Tunnel D.I.	"	" NIL
9.7.68.	" 3	Standpipe on Bunkhouse D.I.	"	" NIL
9.7.68.	" 4	Barrack's Kitchen D.I.	"	" NIL
13.11.68.	" 1	Warden's Kitchen D.I.	"	" NIL
13.11.68.	" 2	Standpipe in Tunnel D.I.	"	" NIL
13.11.68.	" 3	Standpipe on Bunkhouse D.I.	"	" NIL
13.11.68.	" 4	Barrack's Scullery D.I.	"	" NIL

/continued.

Greenbank, Plymouth:-

Date	Specimen	Source	Examined for	Result
19.3.68.	Brown Rat	Saphir & Co., Hillbay	P. Pestis	No Pathogens Isolated
20.3.68.	Water 1	Standpipe in Tunnel D.I.	B. Coli	Probable No. of B. Coli per 100ml NIL
20.3.68.	Water 2	Warden's Kitchen D.I.	B. Coli	" NIL
20.3.68	Water 3	Barrack's Kitchen D.I.	B. Coli	" NIL
19.6.68.	" 1	Saphir & Co.	B. Coli	" NIL
19.6.68.	" 2	Port Health Office	B. Coli	" NIL
9.7.68.	" 1	Warden's Kitchen D.I.	"	" NIL
9.7.68.	" 2	Standpipe in Tunnel D.I.	"	" NIL
9.7.68.	" 3	Standpipe on Bunkhouse D.I.	"	" NIL
9.7.68.	" 4	Barrack's Kitchen D.I.	"	" NIL
13.11.68.	" 1	Warden's Kitchen D.I.	"	" NIL
13.11.68.	" 2	Standpipe in Tunnel D.I.	"	" NIL
13.11.68.	" 3	Standpipe on Bunkhouse D.I.	"	" NIL
13.11.68.	" 4	Barrack's Scullery D.I.	"	" NIL

/continued.

/continued.

Date	Specimen	Source	Examined for	Result
22.11.68.	Water 1	Lady Sorcha Galley Sink	B. Coli	Probable No. of B. Coli per 100ml NIL
22.11.68.	" 2	" Masters L.B.	"	" NIL
22.11.68.	" 3	" Engineers L.B.	"	" NIL
6.12.68.	Brown Rat	Millbay	P. Pestis	No Pathogens Isolated.

CASES OF NON INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND INJURY

LANDED AT THE PORT.

9 cases of non-infectious disease or injury were landed for hospital treatment during the year.

/continued.

Date	Specimen	Source	Examined for	Result
22.11.68.	Water 1	Lady Sorcha Galley Sink	B. Coli	Probable No. of B. Co per 100ml NIL
22.11.68.	" 2	" Masters L.B.	"	" NIL
22.11.68.	" 3	" Engineers L.B.	"	" NIL
6.12.68.	Green Rat	Millbay	P. Pestis	No Pathogens Isolated

CASES OF NON INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND INJURY

LANDED AT THE PORT.

9 cases of non-infectious disease or injury were landed for hospital treatment during the year.